

The peculiar stridulation indulged in on the wing was noticed to be dispensed with when the sun became low, individuals at that time flying silently, while the stridulation is invariably exhibited in flight in the strong heat of the sun. Not rare. Seen as late as October 4.

A pair of *Chloëaltis conspersa*, Harris, was taken *in coitu* September 7, the first specimens being seen September 6. Uncommon.

Tettigidea polymorpha, Scudd., *Tettix triangularis*, Scudd., and *granulatus*, Scudd., are frequently found hibernating as imagos under logs, sticks, stones, bark, and even found in those situations in the spring and late in summer.

Mr. Mann queried if dates of first appearance might not have some relations to the dates of going out into the field. Mr. Townsend showed, however, that in going to and from work he had had daily opportunity to make observations. Mr. Schwarz said that any date was important and valuable as furnishing a basis for future observations.

APRIL 3RD, 1890.

Nine persons present. President Marx in the chair.

A letter of resignation from Dr. R. W. Shufeldt was read, and the resignation was accepted.

Mr. B. E. Fernow was elected an active member of the Society.

Dr. Fox read a paper on the genus *Ceratinella* (*Erigone*). He showed drawings and specimens of all the known American forms except *C. brunnea** Em. and *C. pygmæa* Em., and also described the following new species:

NEW NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF THE GENUS
ERIGONE.

BY DR. WM. H. FOX.

Erigone (*Ceratinella*) *alba*, n. sp.

♂ Closely resembling *C. fissiceps*, but distinguishable by its lighter color and very small palpus. Length, 1.5 mm.

*I have since examined a specimen of *C. brunnea*, thus leaving *C. pygmæa* the only one unknown to me.—WM. H. FOX.

The color is nearly white, and only slightly darker in eye region, not extending back on cephalothorax as in *fissiceps*.

Femur of male palpus long and very narrow, not enlarged at distal end. Palpal organ much as in *fissiceps*, but proportionally smaller.

Locality: District of Columbia; August.

Erigone (Ceratinella) alticeps, n. sp.

♂ Head abruptly raised from thoracic portion; groove between median eyes reduced to a nearly horizontal fold, thus bringing the P. M. E., nearly vertically over A. M. E.

Tibia of male palpus short and rather broad. Tarsal hook short, broad, bent nearly at right angles at its end, with a prominent tooth at about its middle. Palpal organ as in *fissiceps*.

Color, orange. Length, 1.5 mm.

Locality: District of Columbia; April. Three males.

Erigone (Ceratinella) melanocnemis, n. sp.

♂ Head as in *emertonii*, but P. M. E. less than diameter apart (more than diameter in *emertonii*).

Palpus much smaller than in *emertonii*. Tarsal hook, seen from above, extremely narrow; from the side, broad, bent at right angles at tip, with prominent tooth. Tube of palpus small, and without the long curved process of *emertonii*.

♀ Much like *fissiceps*, but epigynum with a broad plate in center, with openings on each side.

Color, orange; tibia of fourth legs much darker than other joints. Length, 1.5 mm.

Locality: District of Columbia; May and October.

Erigone (Ceratinella) parvula, n. sp.

♂ Size, 1 mm. Head rounded and elevated. Cephalothorax falls off abruptly at posterior half. Abdomen with dorsal and anterior shield, the latter almost entirely above pedicle of body.

Palpus, patella as broad as long; tibia broader than long, with tooth in center and short process at outer side. Palpal organ simple, tube coiled upon itself at the end.

Colors, soft parts gray, hard parts dark brown; legs, yellowish brown.

Locality: Hollis, N. H.; August.

Erigone (Ceratinella) tibialis, n. sp.

♂ Resembles *C. minuta*, but differs markedly in the palpus and size. Head narrow, raised; eyes equal, much more than diameter apart.

Tarsal hook very long, strongly curved, with strong tooth at its first third. Palpal organ resembles *fissiceps*.

Color, red-brown, darker around eyes. Legs, light yellow. Size, 1.5 mm.

Locality: District of Columbia; March.

A collection of these spiders was exhibited, together with drawings of the specific characters.

Dr. Marx stated that the group included many species, and was a very difficult one to classify, as there were good characters only in the male sex.

Mr. Schwarz said that the distinctive male characters were constantly being used to distinguish species in other groups of insects where the females could not be separated.

Mr. Schwarz then read the following paper :

LABELING SPECIMENS.

BY E. A. SCHWARZ.

Without a collection valuable observations on insects can no doubt be made, but they will always remain isolated and of limited value without the means for determination and comparison afforded by a collection. A good and serviceable collection, however, does not consist merely of an accumulation and arrangement of specimens in boxes or vials, but also of the record to be attached in some way to the specimen, and which is to inform us regarding the name of the insect, the locality, mode of life, authority for determination, etc.—in short, everything that may belong to the history and natural history of the specimen.

This information can be recorded and made available for practical purposes by the following systems: 1st. By numbers attached to the specimens, and which refer to notes kept and arranged in various ways; 2nd. By written or printed labels attached to the specimens; 3rd. By a combination of these two systems.

For an economic or biological collection the labeling system alone is not practicable; for the information derived from the study and observation of the life-history and economy of a single species or specimen usually covers so much ground that it cannot be written on one or several labels attached to the specimen in the collection. A numbering system is here indispensable, or, still better, a combination of the two systems, since certain shorter information, *e. g.*, locality, date of capture or breeding, etc., can conveniently be written on labels attached to the specimen.

A systematic collection kept in alcohol, *e. g.*, a collection of Arachnida, is evidently well adapted to the labeling system; for the vials are almost always of a size sufficient to allow the